

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9375

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, CY

SUBJECT: CYPRUS IN THE 31ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY - ALLOCATION OF CYPRUS ITEM TO PLENARY

1. SUMMARY: UNGA GENERAL COMMITTEE SEPT 23 VOTED 12-1 (TURKEY)-9 TO ALLOCATE CYPRUS ITEM TO PLENARY WITH REQUEST THAT IT INVITE THE SPECIAL POLITICAL COMMITTEE (SPC) TO MEET TO HEAR REPRESENTATIVES OF BOTH CYPRIOT COMMUNITIES. THIS VOTE WAS PRECEDED BY VOTE ON TURKISH CHALLENGE TO CHAIRMAN'S RULING THAT CYPRIOT PROPOSAL FOR ALLOCATION TO PLENARY ON SAME BASIS AS 1974 AND 1975 TOOK PRECEDENCE OVER TURKISH PROPOSAL FOR ALLOCATION TO SPC. VOTE TO UPHOLD CHAIR WAS 15-1(TURKEY)-5. US IN COMPANY WITH UK, FRG, NORWAY AND OTHERS ABSTAINED ON BOTH ISSUES. TURKEY HAS INDICATED TURKISH/CYPRIOTS WILL NOT ASK TO BE HEARD IN SPC. END SUMMARY.

2. GENERAL COMMITTEE'S HANDLING OF INSCRIPTION AND ALLOCATION OF CYPRUS ITEM THIS YEAR BENEFITED FROM CONFIDENTIAL

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WIDE CONSULTATIONS AMONG COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND WITH

SYG AND CHAIRMAN (GA PRESIDENT) BEFORE MEETING AND FROM CONFIDENT LEADERSHIP OF CHAIRMAN AMERASINGHE. INSCRIPTION OF ITEM ON GA AGENDA WAS APPROVED BY CONSENSUS FOLLOWING BRIEF REMARKS BY CYPRUS PERMREP ROSSIDES AND TURKISH PERMREP TURKMEN. ROSSIDES ARGUED THAT IT WAS ESSENTIAL FOR 31ST GA TO TAKE STEPS TO IMPLEMENT PREVIOUS RESOLUTIONS ON CYPRUS AND NOTED THAT GA RES 3395 (XXX) CALLED ON THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO CONTINUE SEIZED WITH CYPRUS QUESTION. TURKMEN REMARKED THAT CYPRUS DEBATES IN GA ARE NOT CONDUCIVE TO REASONED AND BALANCED DISCUSSION OF THE PROBLEM AND THAT LAST YEAR'S DEBATE MADE RESUMPTION OF CYPRUS TALKS ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE. TURKMEN ADDED THAT HIS GOVERNMENT SOUGHT RIGHT OF EQUAL PARTICIPATION AND THAT IT WOULD NOT OBJECT TO INSCRIPTION IF TURKISH CYPRIOT REPRESENTATIVES COULD PARTICIPATE IN THE DEBATE. TURKMEN CONCLUDED THAT TURKEY DID NOT INSIST ON A VOTE, BUT IF A VOTE WERE CALLED FOR TURKEY WOULD ABSTAIN. CHAIRMAN AMERASINGHE MOVED THAT ITEM BE INSCRIBED BY CONSENSUS. THERE WERE NO OBJECTIONS.

3. WHEN ALLOCATION QUESTION AROSE, AUSTRALIAN PERMREP HARRY SAID HE ASSUMED ALLOCATION TO PLENARY AS SUGGESTED IN SYG REPORT TO GENERAL COMMITTEE ALSO MEANT CYPRUS ITEM WOULD BE ACCORDED THE SAME TREATMENT AS LAST YEAR, NAMELY THAT ITEM BE ALLOCATED TO PLENARY WITH UNDERSTANDING THAT ARRANGEMENT BE MADE WHEREBY BOTH COMMUNITIES COULD BE HEARD IN THE SPC. ROSSIDES, AS REPRESENTATIVE OF COUNTRY SPONSORING ITEM, VERY BRIEFLY REITERATED HIS EARLIER REMARKS, URGING SAME PROCEDURE AS FOLLOWED IN 1974 AND 1975. TURKMEN COMMENTED THAT PREVIOUS YEAR'S ARRANGEMENTS WERE INADEQUATE IN THAT TURKISH SIDE WAS DENIED THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS ITS VIEWS THROUGHOUT DEBATE. HE ADDED THAT THERE WERE TWO ADMINISTRATIONS IN CYPRUS AND THAT IT WAS VITAL FOR BOTH TO BE GIVEN EQUAL RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE IN DEBATE. TURKMEN ALSO REFERRED TO RECOMMENDATION TO GENERAL COMMITTEE TO MOVE ITEMS TO SPC WHERE FEASIBLE (IN VIEW SPC'S RELATIVELY LIGHT AGENDA). HE CONCLUDED BY QUOTING LETTER FROM VEDAT CHELIK STATING THAT TURK/CYPRIOT REPRESENTATIVES WOULD "DISASSOCIATE" THEMSELVES FROM CONFIDENTIAL

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THESE PROCEEDINGS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IF ITEM WAS NOT ALLOCATED TO SPC.

4. AMB. TURKMEN AND CHAIRMAN AMERASINGHE ENGAGED IN EXCHANGE AS TO WHICH PROPOSAL -- ALLOCATION TO PLENARY OR TO SPC -- HAD PRIORITY. TURKMEN ARGUED HIS PROPOSAL HAD PRIORITY SINCE TURKEY MEMBER OF GENERAL COMMITTEE AND CYPRUS IS NOT. SYG FORMULA WAS NOT FORMAL PROPOSAL

BEFORE COMMITTEE IN HIS VIEW. AMERASINGHE RULED TO CONTRARY THAT CYPRUS, AS PROPOSER OF ITEM, HAD REQUESTED ALLOCATION TO PLENARY AND THIS HAD PRIORITY. USSR COMMENTED AT THIS POINT THAT HIS DELEGATION SAW NO REASON TO CHANGE FROM 1974, 1975 ARRANGEMENT. PANAMA ALSO SUPPORTED ALLOCATION TO PLENARY AND ENDORSED RULING OF AMERASINGHE. WHEN TURKMEN INSISTED THAT HIS PROPOSAL SHOULD BE VOTED ON FIRST, AMERASINGHE STATED THAT HE HAD RULED OTHERWISE, BUT RULING COULD BE CHALLENGED. TURKMEN THEN FORMALLY CHALLENGED RULING AND AMERASINGHE CALLED FOR VOTE WHICH UPHELD HIM 15-1(TURKEY)-5(US, UK,FRG). VOTE THEN FOLLOWED ON PROPOSAL TO ALLOCATE ITEM TO PLENARY WITH ARRANGEMENT FOR SPC TO HEAR BOTH COMMUNITIES; RESULT WAS 12-1(TURKEY)-9. ABSTAINERS ACTUALLY TOTLED 10, BUT OFFICIAL COUNT ANNOUNCED BY CHAIR WAS 9. THOSE ABSTAINING WERE: FRG, JAPAN, LESOTHO, LIBYA, NORWAY, OMAN, PHILIPPINES, SUDAN, UK, US.

5. COMMENT: TURKEY LOBBIED HARD FOR ALLOCATION TO SPC AGAINST UNFAVORABLE ODDS GIVEN COMPOSITION OF GENERAL COMMITTEE. TURKISH MISSION OFFICER TOLD US THAT HIS DELEGATION WAS NOT SURPRISED AT OUTCOME BUT WAS DISAPPOINTED OVER US POSITION. TURK MISOFF ADDED THAT HIS DELEGATION WILL MAKE CLEAR IN PLENARY SEPT 24 (WHERE COMMITTEE ACTION CERTAIN TO BE RATIFIED) THAT TURKISH/ CYPRIOT REPRESENTATIVES WILL NOT PARTICIPATE IN SPC DISCUSSION OF CYPRUS, THUS MAKING SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH SPC "INAPPLICABLE." (IN LATER CONVERSATION TURK/CYPRIOT REP ATALAY TOLD MISOFF THAT TURKMEN PLANS TOMORROW TO READ LETTER TO GA. PRESIDENT DISASSOCIATING TURKISH SIDE FROM GA CONSIDERATION OF CYPRUS.) TURK MISOFF ALSO STATED THAT THERE WILL BE NO FURTHER MOVEMENT IN THE CONSULTATIONS/NEGOTIATIONS

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ON THE INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS IN NICOSIA UNTIL AFTER THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ENDS. ON OTHER SIDE, CYPRUS MISSION OFFICER TOLD US BEFORE VOTING THAT HE WAS INSTRUCTED TO CONVEY THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD INTERPRET A US VOTE FOR ALLOCATION TO SPC AS AN "ACT AGAINST CYPRUS".

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